

# CONSUMER PROTECTION



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TRADE AND  
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PROTECTION

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# News

September 2004 Edition

Dear Wisconsin Children's Safety Advocates:

In August 2004, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issued a total of **eight (8) recalls relating to products affecting children**. Attached is a summary of the releases identifying the product, problem and what should be done with the recalled product.

We have found that not all of the recalls are picked up by the news media as they occur. This monthly summary will give you the opportunity to review all of the children's product safety recalls for the past two months.

If you are interested in a complete text of the recall, double click on the hyperlink at the end of the recall description. This will take you to the CPSC website and the actual recall notice. If you have other product safety questions you may call our toll free number at **(800) 422-7128**.

Following is a listing of the 8 "KIDS" recalls by title and identification number (when available):

- ❖ Determined Productions is recalling Plush Toys sold at Kohl's Departments Stores. #04-194
- ❖ HearthSong is recalling Children's Toy Balls.
- ❖ TOMY Company is recalling Pokemon Plush Toys. #04-195
- ❖ PJ Sleep Shop is recalling Bunk Beds for repair. #04-196
- ❖ PTI Sports, Inc. is recalling Schwinn Toddler Bicycle Helmets. #04-199
- ❖ NIKE is recalling Children's Athletic Shoes. #04-200
- ❖ Meco Corp. is recalling Red Chairs from Children's Furniture Sets. #04-202
- ❖ BMW is recalling SlideCarver Scooters. #04-203

We hope you find this service of value and that it assists you to:

## "KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE!"

# KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE

**Release Number:** 04-194 Determined Productions Inc., of Larkspur, Calif. is voluntarily recalling about 90,000 plush frog stuffed animals. The recalled toy is an 11 ½ inch purple stuffed frog with a green chin, belly, hands and feet. The stuffed frog has the word "BRAVE" sewn in purple letters onto the underside of its right foot. Kohl's Department Stores sold the toys exclusively throughout July 2004 for about \$5. Manufactured in China.

**Problem:** The seams in the toy can tear open and expose small plastic pellets, posing a choking or aspiration hazard to young children who mouth the pellets.

**What to do:** Consumers are advised to stop using the toy immediately and contact Determined Productions or stop at a local Kohl's Department Stores to receive a refund or store credit. Call Determined Productions toll-free at (877) 925-0660 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. PT Monday through Friday or e-mail the firm at Normamail@dpisf.com. Consumers also can visit either Kohl's Web site at [www.kohls.com](http://www.kohls.com)



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04194.html>

**Release Information:** HearthSong Inc., of Madison, Va. is voluntarily recalling about 22,500 Peek-a-Boo Balls. The recalled toy is a blue wooden ball with six holes located equally around the ball. Each hole contains a small wooden head with a smiling face in various colors. The were sold exclusively through HearthSong's catalog and Web site from October 2001 through March 2004 for about \$10. Manufactured in Thailand.

**Problem:** The wooden rings on the holes of the product may crack, allowing the small

wooden heads to fall out and pose a choking hazard to young children.

**What to do:** HearthSong will notify all known purchasers by mail regarding a refund and a discount towards the next purchase. For additional information, call HearthSong toll-free at (888) 623-6557 anytime or log onto the company's Web site at [www.hearthsong.com](http://www.hearthsong.com)



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04571.html>

**Release Number:** 04-015 Pokémon Center NY, of New York, N.Y. is voluntarily recalling about 7,845 Pokémon plush dolls, beanbags, and key chains. The recall involves 13 plush Pokémon characters. They are described below with their photo. All recalled toys have a sewn-in label reading "TOMY." There also is a production code on the toy's label that begins with a letter and is followed by two numbers. The following production codes are included in the recall: A04, B04, C04, D03, D04, E03, E04, F03, F04, G03, G04, H03, I03, J03, K03, and L03. Any production code containing an "S" is not part of this recall. They were sold at Pokémon Center NY, 10 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City and on the firm's Web site at [www.pokemoncenter.com](http://www.pokemoncenter.com) nationwide from January 2004 through August 2004 for between \$4.99 and \$34.95. A limited number were given away as a promotional item. Manufactured in China.

**Problem:** Tips of sewing needles have been found in the stuffing posing a puncture hazard.

**What to do:** Parents should take these toys away from children immediately and contact TOMY Company for information on receiving a refund or free replacement toy. Call TOMY

Company at (800) 691-8055 between 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. ET Monday through Friday.



Plus many more, view at link!

- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04195.html>

**Release Information:** 04-196 PJ Sleep Shop of Portland, Ore. is voluntarily recalling about 337 Wooden bunk beds: Twin/Twin, Twin/Double, and Loft Bunks. The recalled models of wooden bunk beds are: Twin/Twin #1000; Twin/Double #2000; and Loft Bunk #3000. There are no model numbers on the bunk beds, but the manufacturer's label is located on the inside of the upper bunk's end structure. The Twin/Twin #1000 has top and bottom bunks of equal size. The Twin/Double #2000 has a twin top bunk and a double bottom bunk that is 15 inches wider. The Loft Bunk #3000 has the bottom bunk perpendicular to the top bunk, making an "L" shape. They were sold at PJ Sleep Shop in Portland, Oregon, and Banner Furniture stores in Portland and Hillsboro, Oregon, between June 1, 2000, and February 29, 2004. Model #1000 sold for about \$199, Model #2000 sold for about \$325, and Model #3000 sold for about \$349. Manufactured in USA.

**Problem:** These bunk beds have gaps between parts of the upper bunk end structure that violate the federal safety standard because they pose entrapment or strangulation hazards to children. The spaces exceed that allowed by the federal bunk bed safety standard, which is designed to protect children from entrapment and strangulation.

**What to do:** Stop using the recalled bunk beds and get a free repair kit from the manufacturer to cover up the entrapment hazards. Consumers can install the repair kit easily at home. To get a free repair kit, contact PJ Sleep Shop or Banner Furniture (depending upon which dealer sold the bunk bed). Although repair kits are not available on-line, consumers in Oregon and Washington state can call PJ Sleep Shop at (888) 232-5225 between 9 a.m.

and 6 p.m. PT Monday through Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04196.html>

**Release Number:** 04-199 PTI Sports Inc., of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. is voluntarily recalling about 9,000 Schwinn-brand Toddler Bicycle Helmets. These Schwinn-brand Toddler Bicycle Helmets have "SCHWINN" written on the back of the helmets. A white label inside the helmets reads, "Lot# 791913." This number is followed by a date from "12-01-03" through "5-15-04." This label also contains the model number SK103, SK107 or SK108. They were sold at Wal-Mart, Target, Academy and Mills Fleet & Farms stores nationwide from January 2004 through July 2004 for between \$17 and \$20 and were manufactured in China.

**Problem:** The helmets do not comply with impact testing requirements in the Consumer Product Safety Act.

**What to do:** Return the recalled helmet to the store where purchased for a replacement or refund. Consumers also can send the helmet back to the manufacturer. For more information, contact PTI Sports at (800) 515-0074 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday.





- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04199.html>

**Release Number:** 04-200 Nike USA, Inc., of Beaverton, Ore. is voluntarily recalling about 9,000 Nike™ Get-Go and Little Get-Go Children's Athletic Shoes. The "GET-GO" and "LITTLE GET-GO" children's athletic shoes come in various color combinations and were sold in toddler and pre-school sizes 2C through 3Y. The Nike Swoosh symbol is on the outside and sole of the shoe. All shoes close with a strap. The style name "GET-GO" or "LITTLE GET-GO" is written on the shoe box. The recalled shoes have one of the following six-digit numbers on a label inside the shoe just above the UPC code: 308638, 308639, 308642 and 308647. Only these style numbers are included in this recall. They were sold at Nike stores, major athletic shoe stores, independent shoe stores and children's stores nationwide from June 2004 through August 2004 for between \$35 and \$45 and manufactured in Indonesia.

**Problem:** The 1.5-inch to 1.75-inch rubber tab at the top of the heel can detach from the shoe, posing a choking hazard to young children.

**What to do:** Consumers should immediately take the recalled shoes away from young children and contact Nike to receive a refund voucher. For more information, call Nike at (800) 344-6453 anytime or visit the Nike Web site at [www.nikebiz.com](http://www.nikebiz.com)



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04200.html>

**Release Number:** 04-202 Meco Corp., of Greeneville, Tenn. is voluntarily recalling about 3,800 Kid's Essentials Five-Piece Folding

Furniture Sets. The recalled product is a red folding chair with a metal frame and vinyl padded seat back and base. The chair was sold as a part of a five-piece juvenile table furniture set with a green table, blue chair, yellow chair, green chair and red chair. Only the red chairs with model numbers 11-88-3E1 and 11-88S3E1 and date codes H3, B4, D4 or E4 printed underneath the seat bottom are included in the recall. "Meco" or "Samsonite" brand names are also printed on the seat label. They were sold at furniture and wholesale club stores nationwide from July 2003 through June 2004 for between \$25 and \$40 and were manufactured in China.

**Problem:** The red paint on the chair contains excessive lead levels, posing a lead poisoning hazard to young children.

**What to do:** Consumers should stop using this red chair immediately and contact the firm for instructions on returning the red chair and receiving a free replacement chair. Call Meco at (800) 251-7558 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. ET Monday through Friday or visit Meco's Web site at [www.meco.net](http://www.meco.net)



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml04/04202.html>

**Release Number:** 04-203 BMW of North America, LLC, of Woodcliff Lake, N.J. is voluntarily recalling 161 SlideCarver Scooters. The SlideCarver is a three-wheeled scooter which is designed to be steered both in the front and back. The steering design allows riders to shift weight and change direction while maintaining control. It has twin-disc brakes, and wide tires equipped with wear indicators. The SlideCarver stands 39.5 inches high by 20 inches wide, has a 26.5-inch wheelbase, weighs approximately 26.5 pounds, and can be folded. "BMW" and "SlideCarver" are written on the underside of the rider platform of these scooters.

They were sold at BMW dealerships and on the firm's Web site from December 2003 through July 2004 for about \$700. They were manufactured in Germany.

**Problem:** The front column of the scooter does not meet impact resistance standards. The handlebar column can break if the scooter hits an object, which can cause the rider to fall and suffer injuries.

**What to do:** Consumers should return the SlideCarver scooters to any BMW dealership or contact the firm for information on returning the scooter to receive a refund. Additionally, consumers will receive a \$200 gift certificate for BMW lifestyle merchandise. For more information, contact BMW at (800) 831-1117 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. ET Monday through Friday.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml/04/04203.html>

If you would like to sign up for the Keep Your Kids Safe newsletter, please visit our webpage at <http://datcp.state.wi.us> or contact Michelle Reinen at (608) 224-4988 or [michelle.reinen@datcp.state.wi.us](mailto:michelle.reinen@datcp.state.wi.us). Please be sure to provide your name, telephone number and e-mail address.

If you have any questions or want to file a complaint regarding an unsafe product, contact:

WI Bureau of Consumer Protection,  
Regulation & Safety Section  
1-800-422-7128 (toll free in Wisconsin)  
or (608) 224-4988